THEBES, GREECE 2,000 BCE

THUM

DMM

DMM

DMM

DMM

ALL THEY COULD DO WAS PRAY.

...HUMANITY SIMPLY GAVE UP.

UNABLE TO RESIST THE GODS...

CHAPTER 23: THE INDOMITABLE HERO

EXCEPT FOR ONE MAN!

TWO

OM

...

?

WHAT'S THAT IDIOT DOING?!

AAAH!... ALCIDES!

HI

LEAP

RAAAGH!

GET...

...OUT OF OUR WAY.

GET

...

BOOM

HMPH!

WHAT'S HE TRYING TO DO? PISS HIM OFF EVEN MORE?! STOP TRYING TO BE A HERO!

TH-THAT IDIOT! HE TOOK A SWING AT A GOD!

DMP DMP DMP DMP

PLEASE...

HAVE MERCY!

OH... NOOO...

HERE THEY COME!

...

SWAY

STOP!

WH AM

YOU...

KRK

HMM?

YOU SHOW SOME METTLE... FOR A HUMAN.

KCHK

...ARE NOT GETTING THROUGH!

I LIKE THAT.

KNEEL BEFORE THE GODS.

DO SO... AND WE WILL SPARE YOUR LIFE.

HEH!

WHAT ABOUT US?

FWP

...

...?

SO, THE GODS GIVE AND TAKE LIVES...

...AC-CORDING TO THEIR WHIMS, HUH?

BUT SOMETIMES WE TURN OUT EVIL.

THAT'S WHY WE TRY TO BE RIGHTEOUS.

WE HUMANS ARE WEAK CREATURES.

THAT'S WHAT WE ARE.

WE GROW AS WE STUMBLE THROUGH LIFE.

BUT YOU CRUSH US WITHOUT EVEN BATTING AN EYE.

WE'RE WEAK, BUT WE SERVE THE GODS. WE DES-PERATELY OFFER UP OUR PRAYERS TO YOU.

...BURIED UNDER OUR WEAKNESS.

WE ALL HAVE RIGHTEOUS-NESS WITHIN US...

WHAT KIND OF JUSTICE IS THAT?!

I...

THAT'S WHY...

Hss

THAT'S WHY...

...TO DEFY SUCH GODS!

FW SH

I WILL LAY DOWN MY LIFE...

THAT'S AMBRO-SIA!

SLOSH

THAT'S...!

GASP ...!

...THIS WITH ME!

I'M GLAD I BROUGHT ...

AHHH...

ALCIDES!

...ON THE SIDE OF THE RIGHTEOUS!

I'M *ALWAYS*...

GLUG GLUG GLUG

HU P

POP

KTNK

...!

AAAH

!!

BAD MP

URRK!

TWOOP

AAAAAA!!

YAAAGH!!

SPLAROO

FSHH

ALCIDES!

CLOP

CLOP

PERHAPS I MISJUDGED HIM...

NO HUMAN CAN WITH-STAND ITS EFFECTS.

WHAT A FOOL! AMBROSIA IS MEANT TO BE *PUNISHMENT* FOR THOSE WHO SEEK EXCESSIVE POWER.

WHSHH

CLOP

FWAH

WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?

FWP

?!

?!

...GETTING THROUGH!

YOU ARE NOT...

OH

TNK

SWF

WHRR

!!

SUCH POWER!

AL-CIDES ...!

A...

SWOO

...OF LISTENIN' TO YOUR YAPPING!

DM DM DM

I'M GETTIN' REAL TIRED...

YOU PUNY HUMAN!

TMP

NO!

YOU FOOL!

BNK BNK

KRAK

WSH

ok

CU

THUNK

WITHOUT A DOUBT...

...THAT'S THE POWER OF MY FATHER, ZEUS!

SPLAT

GET HIM!

STUPID HUMAN!

TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP

WISH

FWE

STOP!

YOU GUYS DON'T STAND A...

AAAA

RAAGH !!

BAD

CALL

FUU

GRR

GRR

GRR

P

ALL

AM

I... I DON'T BELIEVE THIS!

...WIPED OUT MY VASSALS— THE VANGUARD OF THE GODS!

ONE MAN...

ONE

HFF

HFF

A HUMAN FIGHTING ME... THE GOD OF WAR... TO A STAND-OFF?!

GR

SHNG

RRR...

K

RRRAAAAAAAAH!

GO

OKAY!

FU-WAP

BOOM

THAT'S ENOUGH.

FWSHH

...ARES.

HO HO

PFF PFF

IT'S OVER...

IF THIS HAD GONE ON, I'D HAVE BEEN IN REAL TROUBLE!

TH-THANK THE GODS!

HFF HFF

LORD ZEUS ...!

...YOU ACTUALLY DRANK AMBROSIA?

SO...

...

HRMM...

BLINK

BLINK

ZEUS...? THIS OLD MAN?!

ALL RIGHT... ALCIDES, WAS IT?

YOU'RE A GOD NOW.

W-WHAT ?!

?!

HUUH?!

A GOD...?

ME...?

LEAVING YOU DOWN HERE...

...IS JUST GONNA CAUSE US PROBLEMS.

ANY-WAY...

GLANCE

...

YOU WANNA BE A HERO FOR THE RIGHTEOUS ...

...DON'T YOU?

THAT MAKES YOU A PERFECT CANDIDATE TO BE A GOD.

SO HOW 'BOUT IT?

H-HOW DARE YOU TRY TO NEGOTIATE WITH LORD ZEUS?!

JUST ONE!

...ONE CONDI-TION.

I HAVE...

...WILL NEVER HARM HUMANITY.

SWEAR...

...THAT YOU...

FINE.

HEH HEH

YOU MUST GUIDE THEM PROPERLY. DEAL?

BUT IN RETURN...

I...

FWF

WHHH

...IN ORDER TO PRO-TECT THE RIGHTEOUS.

...WILL FALL TO GOD-HOOD...

YOU'RE GONNA BE A *GOD* NOW?

YOU'RE CRAZY!

WH

ALCIDES!

FWF

CAS-TOR...

MP

...GO AWAY FOR A WHILE.

BUMP

I GOTTA...

HEAD-STRONG LITTLE PUNK, AIN'T HE?

"FALL TO GOD-HOOD" ...?

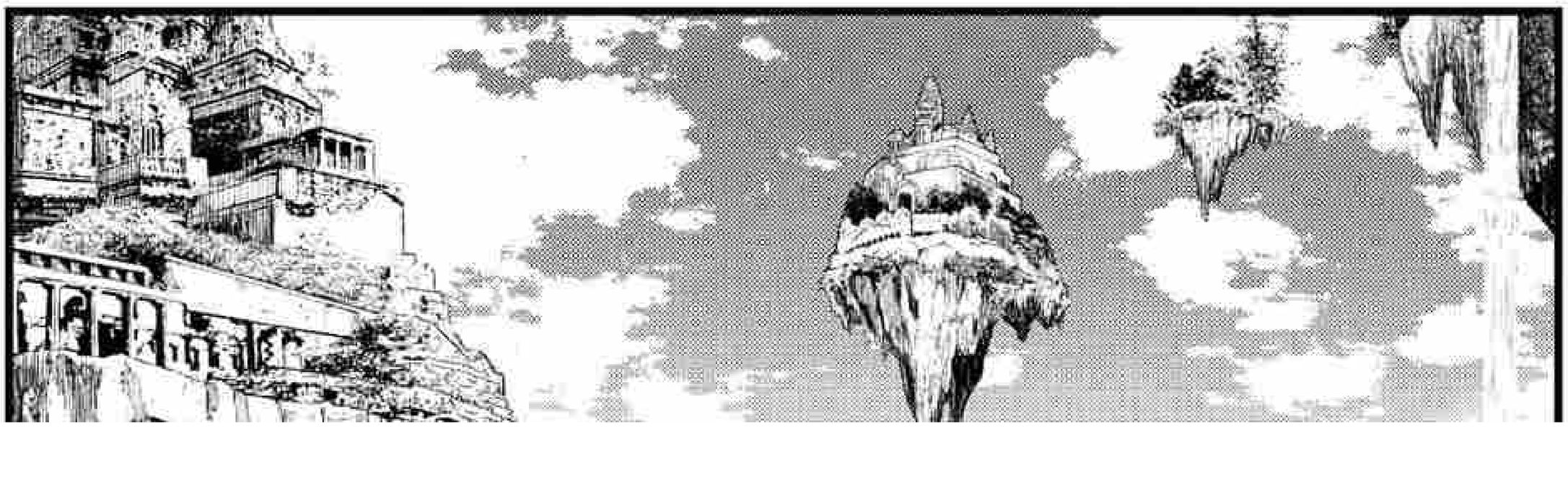
...CAME TO AN END.

AT THAT MOMENT, THE AGE OF MYTH, OF GODS AND HUMANS INTER-ACTING...

...THE GODS DID NOT INVADE.

FOR THE NEXT 4,000 YEARS...

Κάστωρ



THE CORONATION OF HERACLES

...AFTER ZEUS'S WIFE HERA.

HE WAS NAMED...

ALCIDES WAS ELEVATED TO BECOME A CHILD OF ZEUS.

AND SO, HE BECAME ...

...HERACLES!

RAAAAAA

THE ONLY TIME WE FOUGHT AS EQUALS...

...WAS THAT DAY.

...WE COULD BE IN TROUBLE THIS ROUND, NO?

HMM...

IF HE'S YOUR EQUAL, ARES...

WHAT-EVER!

HE CAN'T EVEN HOLD A CANDLE TO HERACLES NOW.

...FOR BEING CHOSEN TO BATTLE FOR US HERE.

KNCH

I'M PROUD OF HIM...

...THROUGH OUR FISTS!

I'M PROUD WE GOT TO KNOW EACH OTHER...

BOK

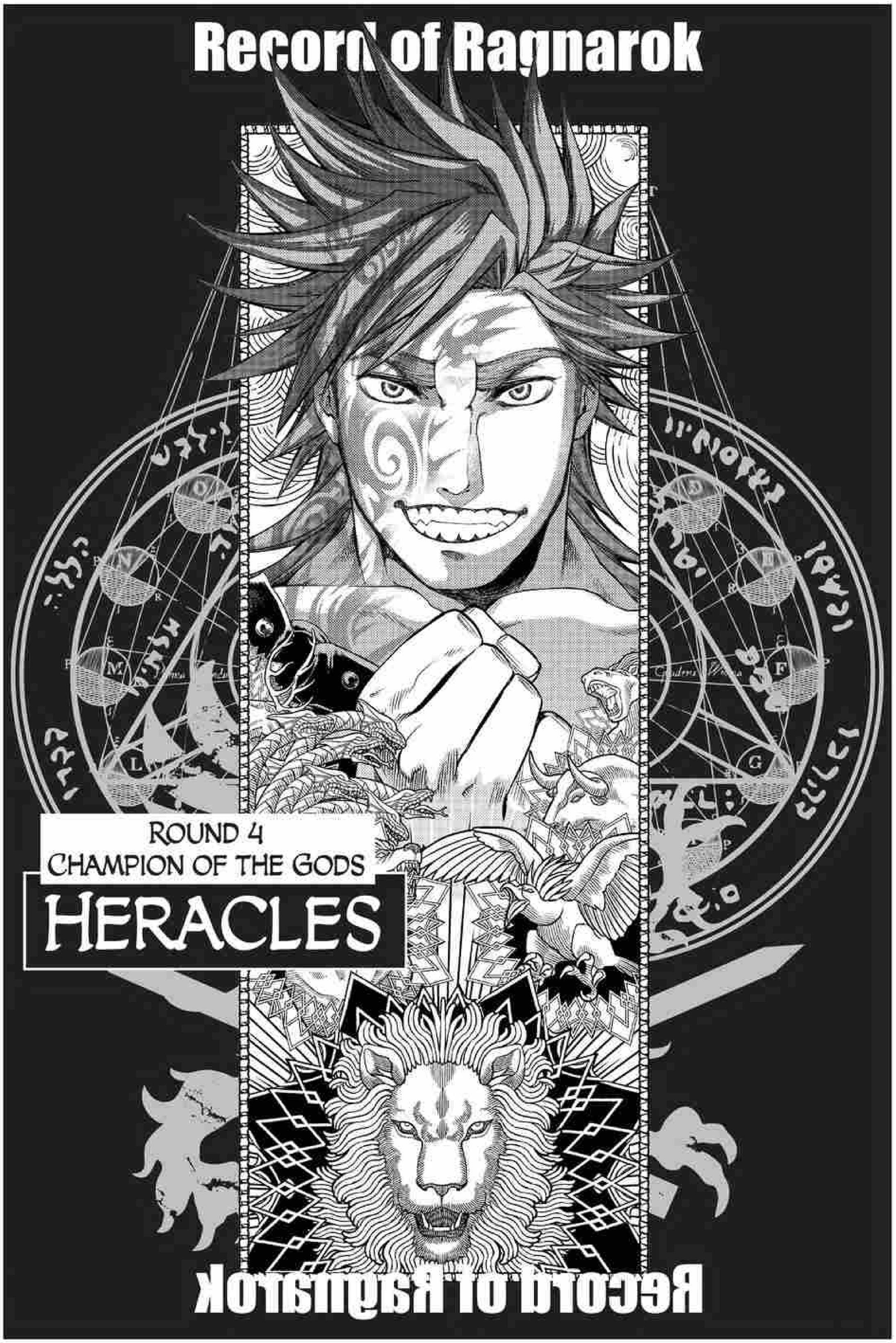
RAAAAA

KRAKK

EVIL ONE...

...BE-GONE!

Record of Ragnarok



ROUND 4
CHAMPION OF THE GODS

HERACLES

Record of Ragnarok

RECORD OF
RAGNAROK